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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/028,327	12/21/2001	Michelle A. Miller	TI-32679	4258
23494	7590	08/17/2004	EXAMINER	
TEXAS INSTRUMENTS INCORPORATED P O BOX 655474, M/S 3999 DALLAS, TX 75265			ARSHAD, UMAR	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2174	

DATE MAILED: 08/17/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

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<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b> 10/028,327	<b>Applicant(s)</b> MILLER ET AL.	
	<b>Examiner</b> Umar Arshad	<b>Art Unit</b> 2174	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
  - If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
  - If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
  - Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 21 December 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-12 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-12 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some \*    c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

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### Attachment(s)

- |                                                                                                                        |                                                                                         |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)                                            | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                                   | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)             |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____                                                |

## DETAILED ACTION

### *Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102*

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this

Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1, 5, and 9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Salas et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,317,686.

As per claim 1, Salas teaches a user interface for a spreadsheet computer program comprising:

a spreadsheet display having rows and columns of cells (see Salas, column 7, lines 1 – 5);

a cursor operable by a user input which indicates at least one currently selected cell (see Salas, column i6, lines 33 – 38); and

a cell edit line which allows the user to enter a mathematical expression with a sequence of entries (see Salas, figure 4a, item 45), wherein the user interface stores the results of the mathematical expression in the selected cell

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but not the mathematical expression and displays the result in the cell (see Salas, figure 4a, item 47a, column 12, lines 46 – 53 and column 13, lines 33 – 36).

As per claims 5 and 9, they are of similar scope to claim 1 and are rejected under the same rationale (see rejection above).

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 2 – 4, 6 – 8, and 10 – 12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over by Salas et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,317,686 in view of Spencer et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,603,021.

As per claim 2, which is dependent on claim 1, Salas teaches the user interface of claim 1 (see rejection above). Salas does not teach the user

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interface of Claim 1, wherein an entry preceded with a "+" or "=" sign is stored as an expression or formula and the result displayed in the cell.

Spencer discloses wherein an entry preceded with a "+" or "=" sign is stored as an expression or formula and the result displayed in the cell (see Spencer, column 9, lines 19 – 25).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to incorporate the method of Spencer with the user interface of Salas in order to specify input of formulas.

As per claim 3, which is dependent on claim 2, Salas and Spencer teach the user interface of claim 2 (see rejection above). Salas does not teach the user interface of Claim 2, wherein an entry preceded with a special symbol is stored as text and the text displayed in the cell.

Spencer teaches wherein an entry preceded with a special symbol is stored as text and the text displayed in the cell (see Spencer, column 9, lines 1 – 3).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to incorporate the method of Spencer with the user interface of Salas in order to specify input of text strings.

As per claim 4, which is dependent on claim 3, Salas and Spencer teach the user interface of claim 3 (see rejection above). Salas does not teach the user

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interface of Claim 3, wherein the special symbol is selected from the following: a quotation mark, and space.

Spencer teaches wherein the special symbol is selected from the following: a quotation mark, and space (see Spencer, column 9, lines 1 – 3).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to incorporate the method of Spencer with the user interface of Salas in order to specify input of text strings.

As per claims 6 – 8 and 10 – 12, they are of similar scope to claims 2 – 4, respectively, and are rejected under the same rationale (see rejections above).

### ***Conclusion***

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Umar Arshad whose telephone number is (703) 305-0329. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday, 9am - 5:30pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kristine L Kincaid can be reached on (703) 308-0640. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

UA

*Kristine Kincaid*  
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